LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or ameliorating a condition selected from:

(a) hepatic or cardiac or brain ischemia-reperfusion injury;

(b) pulmonary hypertension; or

(c) cerebral artery vasospasm,

in a subject by decreasing blood pressure and/or increasing vasodilation in the subject, the method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of non-acidified sodium nitrite to the subject to decrease the blood pressure and/or increase vasodilation in the subject, wherein the sodium nitrite is administered to a circulating concentration of about 0.6 to 240 μM, and wherein the administration is by a route whereby the non-acidified sodium nitrite contacts blood in the subject, and the route is selected from the group consisting of intravenous, intramuscular, rectal, *ex vivo*, intraocular, intraperitoneal, intraarterial, subcutaneous, inhalation, and into a cardiopulmonary bypass circuit, thereby treating or ameliorating the condition.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, which is a method for treating or ameliorating hepatic or cardiac or brain ischemia-reperfusion injury.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein administering sodium nitrite to the subject is intravenous.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, which is a method for treating or ameliorating pulmonary hypertension.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the pulmonary hypertension is neonatal pulmonary hypertension.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein administering sodium nitrite to the subject is by inhalation.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7, wherein the sodium nitrite is nebulized.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5, wherein the sodium nitrite is administered at a rate of 270 μmol/minute.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, which is a method for treating or ameliorating cerebral artery vasospasm.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein administering sodium nitrite to the subject is intravenous.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the sodium nitrite is administered at a rate of about 45 to 60 mg/kg.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sodium nitrite is administered in combination with at least one additional agent.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a mammal.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the subject is a human.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-acidified sodium nitrite is administered to the subject in an amount and for a sufficient period of time to reach a circulating concentration in blood of the subject of no more than about 20 μM, thereby treating or ameliorating the condition.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the non-acidified sodium nitrite is administered to the subject in an amount and for a sufficient period of time to reach a circulating concentration in blood of the subject of no more than about 16 μM, thereby treating or ameliorating the condition.